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Camby man pleads guilty to Unemployment Insurance fraud

*\$30,000 fraudulent claim prosecuted under partnership of
Marion Co. Prosecutor and Dept. of Workforce Development*

(Indianapolis, Ind.) A guilty plea has been entered in the first Marion County criminal Unemployment Insurance fraud case investigated and prosecuted through a recent state and local partnership. Marvin Nistlebeck, Jr., pleaded guilty today to Welfare Fraud, a Class C Felony. Nistlebeck received \$30,705 in unemployment benefits from July 2008 through January 2010 when he was also drawing unreported wages from an employer.

In the plea agreement reached with prosecutors, Nistlebeck has been ordered to repay the total benefits as well as \$17,955 in statutory penalties in weekly payments to Indiana's Unemployment Trust Fund. An eight year sentence to the Indiana Department of Correction was imposed but suspended provided full restitution is made as dictated in the plea agreement.

"We are pleased to reach a resolution in the first case filed under this partnership and see that the wrongfully obtained funds, plus penalties, will be repaid to the state," Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry stated. "As evidenced by the large number of cases filed in the first five months of this partnership, we will continue to seek out those who persist in cheating the system and cheating honest taxpayers."

"I am definitely optimistic about the expeditious and successful start of our partnership," said Scott B. Sanders, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "I believe folks are getting the message that if you take benefits you are not entitled to, we will hold you accountable."

In February, Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry and Indiana Department of Workforce Commissioner Scott B. Sanders announced a partnership to investigate and prosecute individuals accused of claiming fraudulent Unemployment Insurance benefits from the state. Seventeen cases have now been filed in Marion County, representing a total of \$628,588 in allegedly fraudulent obtained benefits and statutory penalties.

Suspicion of Unemployment Insurance fraud should be reported to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development at <http://www.in.gov/dwd/2343.htm>.

A charge of a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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NOTES: The probable cause affidavit in State v. Nistlebeck is available here: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/152432923/Marvin-Nistlebeck-Jr-UI-Fraud-PC>

Feb. 1, 2013, announcement of state-local partnership is available here: <http://www.indy.gov/eGov/County/Pros/NewsCenter/Documents/02-04-13%20UI%20Fraud%20Initiative%20WEB.pdf>